
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INMATE REINTEGRATION PROGRAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The legislature finds that the going home
2 reintegration initiative is a vibrant network of various
3 agencies focused on helping the criminal offender in the
4 community, including the criminal offender returning to the
5 community from re-incarceration. Formed in 2004 as a sub-
6 committee of the Hawaii county mayor's task force on employment
7 solutions, the going home reintegration initiative has a
8 membership of more than seventy government agencies, private
9 organizations, and individual concerned citizens. Working
10 closely with the department of public safety, the Hawaii
11 community correctional center, the Kulani correctional center,
12 the Hawaii intake service center, the Hawaii paroling authority,
13 and the adult probation division of the judiciary, the going
14 home reintegration initiative helps provide and coordinate
15 essential offender program services such as employment
16 placement, housing, substance abuse treatment, and family
17 reconnection.



1 (b) The going home reintegration initiative has helped to
2 start, coordinate, and facilitate services on the island of
3 Hawaii, such as:

4 (1) Job readiness for offenders in the community;

5 (2) Job readiness training, job placement assistance, and
6 job retention strategies;

7 (3) Employer education forums and "business close up"
8 events to encourage the hiring of offenders and ex-
9 offenders;

10 (4) Transitional housing for offenders who would otherwise
11 be homeless;

12 (5) Development of a supporting keiki of incarcerated
13 parents program for the inmates at the Hawaii
14 community correctional center;

15 (6) Attitudinal healing classes; and

16 (7) Support groups for offenders.

17 (c) The legislature further finds that the going home
18 reintegration initiative has become integral to the State's
19 efforts to improve public safety on the island of Hawaii. The
20 going home reintegration initiative plans to continue and expand
21 its efforts in such areas as:

22 (1) Expansion of employer resources;



- 1 (2) Coordinated training for offenders inside the
- 2 correctional facilities and while they are in the
- 3 community;
- 4 (3) Expansion of housing resources;
- 5 (4) Development of transportation resources;
- 6 (5) Transitional services and case management;
- 7 (6) Development of partners in west Hawaii;
- 8 (7) Development of services in west Hawaii and other
- 9 districts on the island of Hawaii;
- 10 (8) Culturally sensitive components as part of the service
- 11 spectrum; and
- 12 (9) Expansion of services for families of offenders.

13 The purpose of this Act is to support the going home
14 reintegration initiative's efforts to successfully rehabilitate
15 and reintegrate offenders to better assure the safety of the
16 community.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$75,000 or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
20 department of public safety to contract with a qualified agency
21 on the island of Hawaii to provide coordination, communication,



1 follow-up, and administration of the going home reintegration
2 initiative.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$350,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
6 department of public safety to contract with qualified entities,
7 such as the workforce development division of the department of
8 labor and industrial relations or agencies familiar with the
9 employment market on the island of Hawaii, to help offenders in
10 east Hawaii with job readiness training, job placement
11 assistance, and job retention strategies.

12 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$133,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
15 department of public safety to contract with qualified entities,
16 such as the workforce development division of the department of
17 labor and industrial relations or agencies familiar with the
18 employment market on the island of Hawaii, to help offenders in
19 west Hawaii with job readiness training, job placement
20 assistance, and job retention strategies.



1 SECTION 5. The sums appropriated in sections 2, 3, and 4
2 shall be expended by the department of public safety for the
3 purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Cindy Evans

JAN 22 2008



Report Title:

Prisoners; Inmate Reintegration Programs; Employment

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of public safety to support the going home reintegration initiative's efforts to provide job readiness training, job placement assistance, and job retention strategies for incarcerated offenders or ex-offenders in the community.

